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May 10, 2004

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U-77753 and U-77778

Subject: Holcim (US) Inc. - 2004 Diatomaceous Earth Removal - Skull Valley, Utah

Dear Sirs,

On August 13, 2002 the US BLM approved our continued activity under the existing Notice (U-77753) pending the issuance of its Plan of Operations (U-77778). The BLM has been extremely busy and the required signatories for the Plan of Operations have been out of office. Mike Ford advises that the Plan of Operations will be issued soon.

Holcim will be reopening the existing pit to remove Diatomaceous Earth per campaign method. The area of removal is within the 5 Acres or less Disturbance Area.

Holcim will be using the same contract miners who are knowledgeable of the mine plan and reclamation requirements, attached. Holcim employees will be supervising the activities to insure compliance.

As always your efforts are most appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please advise.

RECEIVED

MAY 12 2004

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Newman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" being more legible than the last name "Newman".

Tom Newman, CPG
Chief Geologist

Copy:

Chester Goodson, Plant Manager
Lance Stephens, Production manager
Ken George, Quarry manager
Holcim (US) Inc.

Subject: 2004 Diatomaceous Earth Mine Plan for Skull Valley, Utah

Below is a brief mine plan for the Diatomaceous Earth (DE) Deposit in Skull Valley, Utah.

Updated Notes:

- ❑ The DE Mine Plan is a reopening of an existing pit that has been mined earlier.
- ❑ Mining is by a campaign method, i.e. only 3 acres can be taken in any one calendar year.
- ❑ At the end of each mining campaign, full reclamation, i.e. replacement of overburden and reseeded will be performed.
- ❑ There will be an absolute minimum of vegetation disturbance during the mining. Only vegetation that will need removal for each campaign will be disturbed.
- ❑ Compliance with the US-BLM, Utah Department of Natural Resources and Tooele County Planning Commission permits are required.
- ❑ The Tooele County Permit requires that a portable toilet be on site during the campaign.
- ❑ There are two entrances to the DE pit one graveled road North/South and the other East/West.
- ❑ The East/West haul road maybe used for light truck traffic.
- ❑ Only the North/South haul road from the Old Lincoln Highway will be used for truck traffic.
- ❑ A culvert is constructed adjacent to the asphalt Old Lincoln Highway and the North/South gravel haul road. The length is plus 15 feet with a minimum diameter of 18 inches. The culvert is functional during the mining campaign.

Pre-mining Activities:

1. Mining will be in compliance with all Federal, State, Local and Holcim (US) Inc. permits, rules and regulations.
2. All mining activities are under MSHA safety regulations.
3. The exact tonnage for the 2004 Mine Plan is in a separate letter.
4. Review the 2004 mine plan. There are areas that are off limits (in red) to any activity.
5. Remove temporary gravel barriers to entrance roads by putting the gravel back into the existing excavations.
6. Place a culvert at the North/South entrance to the Old Lincoln Highway is filled.
7. Set the temporary toilet near the mine site. Keep all mining documents in a plastic container (to be supplied) near the temporary toilet.
8. Have spill prevention materials on hand at all times to collect any accidental spills of oil or fuel.

Overburden removal and storage:

1. Review the 2004 Mine Plan map.
2. At the end of 2003, the DE was contoured to the present slope angle. The overburden is simply laying over the DE.
3. In 2003 overburden (seed bearing horizon) was spread over the entire mine site. Remove the overburden from the mining areas and place in the Temporary Overburden Stockpile Site (in purple on map). The overburden is approximately 2 feet thick. Note - do not disturb any vegetation outside the disturbance boundary.
4. Use the Yearly Overburden Site (in blue on the map) for additional storage. Note - the Yearly Overburden Stockpile Site can be moved anywhere within the 2004 mining area, the exact location on the map is for display only.
5. Note - that at the end of the campaign mining the overburden from the Temporary and Yearly Stockpile Sites will be re-spread over the disturbed sites.

Mining:

1. No not exceed the 2001 mining boundary (green line on map) except for the Temporary Overburden Stockpile Site
2. The DE used to re-contour the slopes after 2003 can be mined and hauled to Devils Slide.
3. Reestablish the DE faces to the 2003 condition. Faces (highwalls) were in excess of 15 feet high. Mine to the maximum depth that DE is encountered or within MSHA regulations.
4. Remove the DE toward the south ('FIRST' on the Map).
5. Remove the DE toward the north ('SECOND' on the Map).
6. Remove the DE toward the east ('THIRD' on the Map).

Hauling:

1. Only 'dust free' haul trucks are to be used.
2. Maintain the minimum speed limit while passing by the houses approximately 5 miles west on the Old Lincoln Highway. If dust is seen coming from the trucks - repair the problem before passing these houses.
3. Only the North/South entrance is to be used for the haul trucks.

Reclamation:

1. When the mining is completed, re-contour the highwalls to a 3:1 slope as done in 2003.
2. Reestablish the overburden over the entire mine site, first using the overburden from the Temporary Overburden Stockpile Site and second from the Yearly Stockpile Site.
3. Press the Overburden down by repeated bulldozer track travel. The bulldozer cleat marks should be parallel to the slope.
4. Remove any temporary storage material and the temporary toilet.
5. Reestablish the gravel barriers on the North/South and East/West roads.
6. Keep the culvert in place for next year.
7. Contact Devils Slide when all activities have been completed.

Holcim Contacts:

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